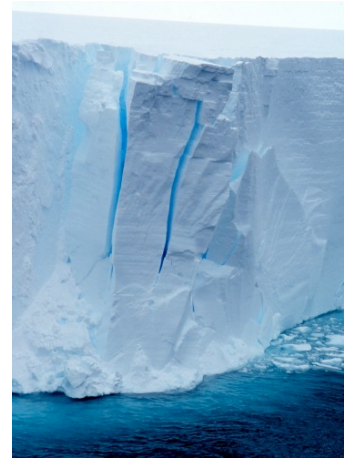


The Ross Ice Shelf

By April

I choose The Ross Ice Shelf because it's the largest ice shelf in Antarctica. It is hundreds of meters thick. The front to the open sea is more than *600 km* long and between *15* and *50* meters high above the water surface. *90%* of the floating ice, however, is below the surface. The cliffs at the waters edge are about *200* feet high. The Ross Ice Shelf is *81° 30' 0" S, 175° 0' 0" W*. In 2002 the Ross Ice Shelf began to crack. "The Ross Ice Shelf could break off without warning causing a dramatic rise in sea levels," warn New Zealand scientists.

A New Zealand-led ice drilling team has recovered three million years of history from samples which gives clues as to what may happen in the future. This is why we should help with the pollution levels because if not then the world will have more water, and most of our land will be submerged. The picture I modified below shows what I think would happen.



This is why we should study the world's biggest ice shelves if we want our planet to be in its best shape. "This breakup gave us the information we need to re-examine the stability of ice shelves around the rest of the Antarctic continent," said Glaciologist Ted Scambos. The Ice shelves act as breaks for the glaciers. But these shelves serve another important purpose – they change the amount of how fast melting occurs on the glaciers' surfaces. Once the shelves are removed, the glaciers increase in speed due to the melted water the reduction of braking forces, and they

may begin to dump even more ice into the ocean. Glacier ice speed increases are already observed in Peninsula areas where ice shelves disintegrated in earlier years.

Many scientists know that we should study the artic more but they don't know what to study. And I am here with the answer, the Ross Ice Shelf, it holds all the keys to our problems. The ice shelf is cracking and it's the biggest one of them all! Thank you for reading my proposal and I hope you study the Ross Ice Shelf for good reasons and I hope this may help our future generations.

Bibliography

I found my info mostly on www.google.com/therossiceshelf/ and on www.ask.com/rossiceshelf/ the pictures where found on www.google.com/images/rossiceshelf/ I was inspired by all of the scientists working in Antarctica to help us not have as bad global warming. So to them we say, "Thank you"

